

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 03181 220704Z
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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6366

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 3181

FROM AMBASSADOR EAGLEBURGER FOR DAS LUERS

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: CASC, CGEN
SUBJECT: DUAL NATIONALS

REF: A) BELGRADE 2646; B) BELGRADE 2653

1. AT LUNCH YESTERDAY I RAISED THE DUAL NATIONAL PROBLEM WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY BERNARDIC AND NORTH AMERICAN OFFICE DIRECTOR STARCEVIC. I SAID THAT FROM THE US POINT OF VIEW THIS MATTER HAD THE POTENTIAL FOR DOING SERIOUS DAMAGE TO THE IMPROVED BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WE NOW ENJOY. I POINTED OUT THAT THE PROBLEM WE HAVE RE TONY ALIMIS IS A CASE IN POINT (I PUSHED FOR A POSITIVE ANSWER TO MY ALIMIS DEMARCHE ASAP), AND THAT SUCH IRRITANTS (AND POTENTIAL TIME BOMBS) WILL CONTINUE TO ARISE UNTIL WE TAKE STEPS TO RESOLVE THE AMBIGUITIES SURROUNDING DUAL NATIONALITY.

2. BOTH BARNARDIC AND STARCEVIC RESPONDED POSITIVELY, SAYING THEY AGREED IT WAS NOW TIME TO TRY TO SETTLE THE QUESTION. THEY SUGGESTED THAT I, INFORMALLY, GIVE THEM SOME SUGGESTIONS ON POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS, SO THAT THEY COULD REVIEW THEM AND SEE WHAT THE GOY MIGHT BE ABLE TO AGREE TO. I PROMISED TO PULL TOGETHER A RANGE OF
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 03181 220704Z

PROPOSALS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.

3. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE QUICK ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPENING. CAN THE DEPARTMENT (I ASSUME SCA AND L) GET TO ME SOON A RANGE OF PROPOSALS (WITH APPROPRIATE BACKGROUND EXPLANATION) THAT I COULD INFORMALLY GIVE TO BERNARDIC? I WOULD ASSUME THE PROPOSALS MIGHT RANGE FROM

RENEGOTIATION OF THE CONSULAR CONVENTION ON THE ONE
EXTREME TO SOME SORT OF AGREEMENT TO PERMIT US CONSULAR
ACCESS ON THE OTHER. THERE MAY, OF COURSE, BE ANY NUMBER OF OTHER
POSSIBILITIES THAT MY FERTILE MIND HAS NOT COME UP WITH.

4. BUT LET US STRIKE WHILE THE IRON IS HOT; IN THE CASE
OF THE TWO REFTELS (WHICH REMAIN UNANSWERED) I CANNOT
EVEN FIND THE IRON ANYMORE.
EAGLEBURGER

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